BASKERVILLE, John
BIOG

Medical Publications of the Baskerville Press

ELIZABETH F. CARR, M.A.[1]

EARLY printers placed great emphasis on the general excellence of each book issuing from their presses. During the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries there were a number of presses that gained widespread fame. Specimens of their work are of interest to any student of rare books. The Archibald Church Library has some fine examples of the publications of these presses; and it is planned in this and in some of the succeeding issues of the Quarterly Bulletin to describe a few of them briefly.

ANATOMIA
UTERI HUMANI GRAVIDI
TABULIS ILLUSTRATA.
AUCTORE
GULIELMO HUNTER,
SERENISSIMAE REGINAE CHARLOTTAE MEDICO EXTRAORDINARIO,
IN ACADEMIA REGALI ANATOMIAE PROFESSORE,
ET SOCIETATUM, REGIAE ET ANTIQUARIAE, SOCIO.

BIRMINGHAMIAE EXCUDEBAT JOANNES BASKERVILLE, MDCCLXXIV.
LONDINI PROSTANT APUD S. BAKER, T. CADELL, D. WILSON, G. NICOL, ET J. MURRAY.

THE ANATOMY
OF THE
HUMAN GRAVID UTERUS
EXHIBITED IN FIGURES.

BY
WILLIAM HUNTER,
PHYSICIAN EXTRAORDINARY TO THE QUEEN, PROFESSOR OF ANATOMY IN THE ROYAL ACADEMY, AND FELLOW OF THE ROYAL AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETIES.

PRINTED AT *BIRMINGHAM* BY *JOHN BASKERVILLE*, 1774.
SOLD IN *LONDON* BY *S. BAKER* AND *G. LEIGH*, IN *York-Street*; *T. CADELL* IN THE *Strand*; *D. WILSON* AND *G. NICOL*, OPPOSITE *York-Building*; AND *J. MURRAY*, IN *Fleet-Street*.

Fig. 1. Title page of William Hunter's "Anatomy of the Gravid Uterus."

Among the outstanding early printers was John Baskerville, who has been called the "Father of fine printing in England . . ." (1). Baskerville took up printing largely as a hobby, after he had acquired a good deal of money making japanned ware. He spent several years working on a type that satisfied him and finally, in 1757, at Birmingham, published his first book, an edition of Virgil.

The distinguishing feature of all Baskerville's work was the careful attention given every detail which would contribute to the general excellence of the book. He aimed at perfection of the book as a whole and spared no effort to attain it. He was concerned not only with the type, but with the accuracy of the text, and the quality of paper, ink and press-work. He manufactured his own paper that it might meet his requirements.

Baskerville's work was all characterized by great simplicity. He used ornaments sparingly and the pages were not crowded. The lines were spaced effectively and the beauty of the type was given full prominence. As may be observed in the illustrations, the type was extremely plain, and the few ornaments were in keeping.

The total output of the Baskerville Press was less than one hundred volumes and most of these were either classical or religious titles. There were, however, two medical publications; copies of both are in the collection in the Archibald Church Library.

The more famous one is undoubtedly William Hunter's "Anatomy of the Gravid Uterus" (fig. 1). This book has been designated "One of the most remarkable productions of the 18th century" (2). It is very important from a scientific standpoint, as well as being an example of fine printing. It is a large folio volume. It contains thirty-four

[1]From the Archibald Church Library, Northwestern University Medical School. Received for publication, April 2, 1945.

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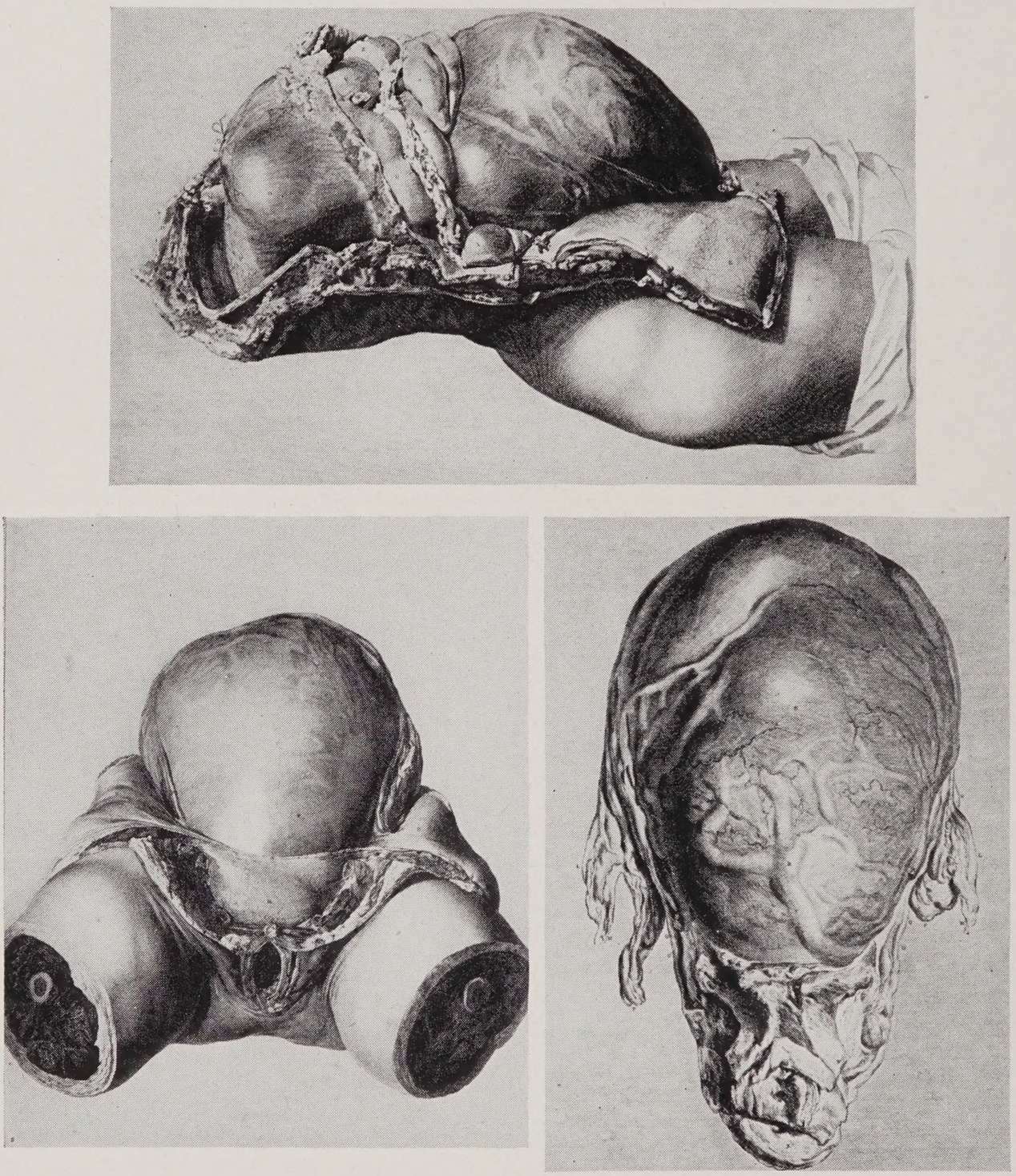

Fig. 2. Plates from the "Anatomy of the Gravid Uterus."

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plates, anatomically correct, and is considered one of the finest anatomical atlases ever published (fig. 2).

THE VIRTUES
OF
CINNABAR AND MUSK,
Againſt the BITE of a
MAD DOG,
ILLUSTRATED.

In a Letter to Sir *GEORGE COBB*, Baronet.

In which are recited upwards of a hundred Caſes, wherein this Medicine hath happily ſucceeded: (whereof two were after the *Hydrophobia* appeared;) together with ſome few Inſtances wherein it hath not ſucceeded; owing entirely to its not being properly given, as is proved to Demonſtration: with proper Directions whereby to avoid the like Diſappointment for the Future.

WITH A WORD OR TWO

Concerning Dr. *HENRY BRACKEN*'s newly diſcovered *Specifick*, of near eighteen hundred Years ſtanding; being a ſufficient Refutation of the flimſy Arguments advanced by this celebrated Writer, in a learned Rant on the Virtues of *Gooſe-greaſe*.

By *JOSEPH DALBY*, Surgeon.
Cauſa latet, vis eſt notiſſima.

BIRMINGHAM;
Printed by JOHN BASKERVILLE, for the Author:
and Sold by Z. STUART, in Pater-Noſter-Row, London;
Meſſ. FLETCHER, PARKER, and PRINCE, in Oxford.
MDCCLXII.

Fig. 3. Title page of Joseph Dalby's "The Virtues of Cinnabar and Musk against the Bite of a Mad Dog."

The other medical publication of the Baskerville Press is a small, less important work which has been so overshadowed by Hunter's book as to be practically forgotten. This item is entitled, "The Virtues of Cinnabar and Musk against the Bite of a Mad Dog . . . by Joseph Dalby, Surgeon" (fig. 3). Little is known about the author. While of no scientific value, the book is of interest as a Baskerville Press specimen and also as something of a medical curiosity. Two editions were published, the first in 1762, the second in 1764. The Archibald Church Library has a copy of each edition. The second edition is not listed in the Catalogue of the Surgeon General's Library. An interesting feature of the Northwestern copy of this edition is that it contains an old bookplate, marked "Thomas Bell, 1797."

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3. Peddie, R. A., ed.: Printing, London, Grafton & Co., 1927, p. 197.
4. McKerrow, R. B.: An Introduction to Bibliography, Oxford, The Clarendon Press, 1928, p. 301-302.
5. Oswald, J. C.: A History of Printing, New York, D. Appleton, 1928.

The Teaching of Physical Medicine in a Medical School

HARRY D. BOUMAN, M.D. and JOHN S. COULTER, M.D.[1]

PHYSICAL medicine is forcing itself on the attention of clinicians in every field with an ever increasing intensity. It has caught the fancy of the general public in no small measure. The results of rehabilitation of the wounded of this war have made a deep impression. Stories of the role which physical medicine in the form of physical and occupational therapy have played in this restoration have been given considerable publicity in the daily press and in national magazines. The curiosity and interest of the public have been aroused.

It is unfortunate that too often when the public turns for its information to the medical profession, the individual practitioner finds himself wholly unqualified and unprepared to answer these questions. He may try to answer in generalities, he may try to avoid the issue, but it is almost certain that he will ask himself the question, "Why was I not taught about this in medical school?" Of course there are exceptions. Our Northwestern graduates have for a number of years been taught at least the fundamental principles of physical medicine, but this fortunate situation is at present the exception rather than the rule.

Alan Gregg, in 1940 described the situation as follows: "A curious phenomenom in American medicine is the deft elimination of much reference to physical therapy, almost as those who keep their children ignorant of the facts of life, we appear to protect the American medical student from the knowledge of physical therapy, mindful, I suppose, of the abuses imputed to osteopaths and chiropractors. Of course, there is much the same result: thus protected our graduates angrily complain of competition from those whose knowledge it is tabu to acquire . . . The current unabashed ignorance of physical therapy in this country leaves it an excellent opportunity for development in American medicine."

It is clear that this opportunity for development can only be offered by our medical schools. Rather than "protect the American medical student from the knowledge of physical therapy" he should be made thoroughly familiar with the practice and principles of this branch of medicine so that he can judge what it can do for him and what it cannot do. It should be made clear to him that much expensive apparatus does not necessarily make good physical medicine and that 90 per cent of physical medicine requires no elaborate apparatus at all. Many simple technics can even be taught the patient for home application, provided that the physician is able to give his patient clear and exact instructions for this application.

Physical medicine is not the display of expensive and complicated apparatus, it is, like any other branch of medicine, the application of certain specific diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. For some of these procedures special apparatus may be necessary; for many of them the practitioner will have to rely on sound knowledge which he has or should have learned in medical school.

Physical medicine has its roots in physiology, and the fundamentals underlying clinical physical medicine should be demonstrated during the physiology course. At Northwestern University Medical School this is made possible through the cooperation of Dr. A. C. Ivy, professor of Physiology. A member of the Department of Physical Medicine presents a number of demonstration lectures during the physiology course in the sophomore year. Heating of tissue by paraffin and

[1]From the Department of Physical Medicine, Northwestern University Medical School. Received for publication, September 5, 1945.